

THE RYUKYU KINGDOM



Cornerstone of East Asia

MAMORU AKAMINE

TRANSLATED BY LINA TERRELL
AND EDITED BY ROBERT HUEY



University of Hawai'i Press

HONOLULU

Contents



Author's Note

vii

Translators' Note and Acknowledgments

ix

Introduction

What Do We Mean by the "Ryukyu Kingdom"?

1

CHAPTER ONE

The Gusuku Period

10

CHAPTER TWO

Founding of the Ming Dynasty and the Rise of the Ryukyu Kingdom

20

CHAPTER THREE

Ryukyu in the East Asian Trade Sphere

32

CHAPTER FOUR

The Ryukyu Kingdom under the *Bakuhān* System

58

CHAPTER FIVE

Reform and Sinification of the Kingdom

79

CHAPTER SIX

The Ryukyu Kingdom's Tribute Trade

100

CHAPTER SEVEN

The Imperial Investiture System and the Ryukyu Kingdom

127

CHAPTER EIGHT

The End of the Kingdom

142

Afterword*Traces of the Ryukyu Kingdom*

163

Notes

167

Bibliography

181

Index

191